

Sheriff Whittle's Telling Our Parents & Promoting Educated Drivers in new S.T.O.P.P.E.D. program

Sheriff Clay Whittle is pleased to introduce the S.T.O.P.P.E.D. program, a parental notification system developed by the Onondaga County Sheriff's Office in New York. This program will hopefully reduce the number of young drivers involved in motor vehicle accidents. Over 3,000 drivers between 16 and 21 years of age die in the United States each year as a result of car crashes. The Columbia County Sheriff's Office offers parents this voluntary notification system to assist them in watching their young drivers and to raise awareness for drivers under the age of 21.

FIRST:

Parents voluntarily register with the Columbia County Sheriff's Office any motor vehicle that will be operated by a driver under the age of 21.

SECOND:

When you register, you receive an identification decal that you will affix to the rear window of each registered vehicle.



GET S.T.O.P.P.E.D.:

If for any reason one of the registered vehicles, when operated by a driver under the age of 21, is stopped by the Sheriff's Office the Deputy will complete a notification card providing the following information:

- Time and location of stop
- Driver's name and number of passengers
- Reason for the stop
- Whether any traffic citations were issued.

Notifications will be mailed directly to parents to make them aware of the potential problems and enable them to enforce any parental rules that often coexist with teenage driving privileges.



"Traffic crashes are the leading killers of our teenagers. Please join me and the Columbia County Sheriff's Office in becoming partners in promoting young driver safety."

-Clay Whittle

REGISTER TODAY:

If you wish to register you can do the following:

- Call the Columbia County Sheriff's Office Community Services at (706) 541-2856 and request a registration form.
- Go to www.columbiacountyso.org and follow the Community Services link to the S.T.O.P.P.E.D. tab.

We Did it Again!

On July 16th, MONEY Magazine announced their 2007 list of "100 Best Places to Live." Martinez, GA was ranked 76th with only two other Georgia cities making this year's list (Suwanee ranked 10th and Peachtree City ranked 64th). Martinez was featured for its award-winning schools, low crime rate, and reasonable housing costs. It is also noted for the historic headgates of the Augusta Canal which is the home for our Regional Visitor Information Center and the location of the County's only waterfall where Reed Creek feeds into the Canal. Evans, another Columbia County community, was featured on the 2005 list and was ranked 32nd by MONEY magazine.



DFACS Director Retiring



Linda Joesbury will retire from the Columbia County Department of Family & Children Services (DFACS) on August 31, 2007. She has served 27 years of her 33-year career with the State of Georgia's Department of Family & Children Services in Columbia County.

Community Calendar

August

- 3 *3rd Annual Summertime on the Canal* beginning at 4 PM at the Savannah Rapids Pavilion and Canal Headgates. Outdoor festival with children's games, arts & crafts, eating contest, music and dance performances from 4-9 PM. Rubber duck race at 8 PM and an evening concert at 9 PM. For more information call (706) 312-7194 or visit www.columbiacountyga.gov.
- 4 Mary Jo Weegar, local author and teacher, *The World's Greatest Teachers: A True Story of My Dad*, 2-4 PM in Main Library
Back to School Festival at Evans High School from 10 AM – 2 PM
- 8 All library branches closed
- 9 *Sunset Music Series* - Free concert in the Amphitheater at 7 PM featuring *Bragg & Hughes**
- 12 Sunday Scrabble Club for 12+ from 2-5 PM in Main Library
- 16 *Sunset Music Series* - Free concert in the Amphitheater at 7 PM featuring *Livingroom Legends**
- 19 Sunday Scrabble Club for 12+ from 2-5 PM in Main Library
Young adult fiction writer, S.A. Harazin, to speak and sign books at the Main Library from 2-5 PM
- 20 *The Flanders Panel* book discussion at 6:30 PM in the Main Library
- 23 Brown Bag Lunch at 11:30 AM in the Main Library. *The Savage Garden* by Mark Mills will be discussed.
Sunset Music Series - Free concert in the Amphitheater at 7 PM featuring *Fret Not!**
- 30 *Sunset Music Series* - Free concert in the Amphitheater at 7 PM featuring *Preston & Weston**

September

- 6 *Sunset Music Series* - Free concert in the Amphitheater at 7 PM featuring the *Vellotones**
 - 13 *Sunset Music Series Finale* - Free concert in the Amphitheater at 7 PM featuring the *Groove Masters**
- * *Sunset Music Series* sponsored by The Columbia County News Times, Ernie Blackburn Builders, Pierwood Construction, and Bill Beazley Homes. For more information, call (706) 312-7194.

Savannah River at Risk Public Forum

Governor Sonny Perdue is to be the keynote speaker at the *Savannah River at Risk* public forum to be held Tuesday, September 18, 2007 from 9:00 AM till 4:30 PM. The forum will be held at the Savannah Rapids Pavilion.

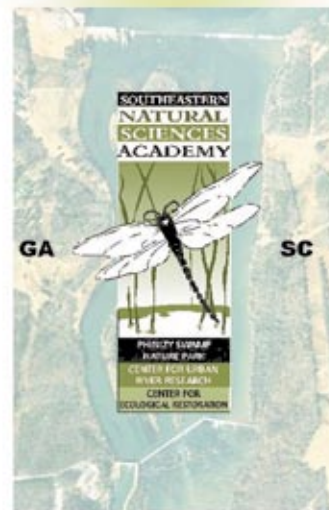
Don't miss learning about:

- The state of the Savannah as seen by GA and SC stakeholders
- Updates on water agreements between the states
- Innovative river science
- What is being done to raise water quality awareness
- The Academy's first year of *Savannah River at Risk* data

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED TO ATTEND.
For more information, call (706) 828-2109.

SAVANNAH RIVER AT RISK

Public Forum



Announcements

- No Story Time in August – please register for Fall Story Time by calling (706) 447-7657.
- Your Augusta Symphony plays music you want to hear, whether it's your first children's concert or a golden anniversary night out. Series tickets for all 2007-2008 concert series—Masterworks, Pops, Columbia County, and Family Fun—are now available. Call (706) 826-4705 or visit www.augustasympphony.org to reserve your seats today!
- Registration for the Columbia County Recreation Department's fall youth football, soccer, baseball, and cheerleading programs will end August 10th. Online registration (www.columbiacountyga.gov) is available for youth who have previously played with the Recreation Department. The cost is \$55 for the first child, \$50 for the second child, and \$40 for the third child. Please call (706) 863-7523 for more information.
- Nominations are now being accepted for the 2008 One Book, One Community community-wide read. Nomination boxes are located in all three Columbia County Libraries and are also accepted online at <http://oboccolumbiacoga.blogspot.com>.
- *Keep Columbia County Beautiful* and Waste Management are providing public bins for phonebook recycling until the end of August. Recycling bins are in the following locations:
 - Evans Government Center – 630 Ronald Reagan Drive in the front parking lot as well as behind Building E
 - Fire Department Headquarters – 3910 Desoto Drive in Martinez
 - Fire Department Station #3 – 703 Furys Ferry Road
 - Fire Department Station #4 – 4590 Oakley Pirkle Road
 - Fire Department Station #6 – 2264 William Few Parkway
 For more information, please call 706-312-7191 or e-mail sadkins@columbiacountyga.gov.